

ER 83-3247

OEXA 83-1569

5 JUL 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:

Director, Office of External Affairs

STAT

SUBJECT: Request to Contribute an Article to the  
Signal, Armed Forces Communications and  
Electronics Association Magazine

1. Action Requested: Approve the attached message from you to the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) October 1983 Intelligence Systems issue of Signal magazine.

2. Background: [redacted] has requested that you contribute an article to Signal magazine. The publishing deadline is 15 August. You have been asked to prepare a guest commentary between 500-1000 words on the subject of intelligence systems and "philosophize from your background and position as to the need for the 'I' in C<sup>3</sup>I" (Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence) and the necessity "to rebuild our nation's intelligence resources."

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Your last contribution appears opposite this memorandum. You and your predecessors have routinely contributed in past years.

3. Recommendation: Approve attached message to be forwarded to AFCEA.

STAT

Attachments

ACCEPT:

/s/ William J. Casey

Director of Central Intelligence

Date

DECLINE:

Director of Central Intelligence

Date



## The Threat and the Need for Intelligence

by

William J. Casey

In a business and a world of few absolutes, one thing is certain -- our need as a nation for superior intelligence continues to grow. Throughout the world, our country faces serious threats to its security and national interests. These threats include social, economic and political instability as well as outright military aggression.

Today we need to be concerned about a greater variety of intelligence problems. In addition to the traditional military and political analysis of different countries, we are beginning to focus more attention on global issues -- terrorism, political insurgency, nuclear proliferation, and the pilfering of our technology -- that cut across national boundaries.

The Soviet Union is still our number one intelligence problem. Its military build-up continues relentlessly; yet, the threat from the Kremlin is much broader than just direct military aggression. Enhanced Soviet military power will be used as a political weapon giving additional force and thrust to diplomatic and propaganda initiatives. With a skillful array of associates, Moscow is using a variety of tactics -- political, diplomatic, subversive, and insurgent -- to expand

Soviet influence and destabilize governments. Right now in concert with Cuba, we see them attempting to bring the struggle to our own backyard in Central America.

As the demands for more information grow so do the demands on our intelligence collection systems increase. We need a sufficient variety of modern collection methods, both human and technical. We cannot emphasize one method above the other since they only act well in concert. Each collection method answers its own special questions. None can stand alone. The validity of intelligence assessments depends upon multiple sources of information.

New systems must have two major characteristics: flexibility and timeliness. It is not enough that we give our national leaders the right information; we must give it to them at the right moment. It is not enough that we know all there is to know about today's problems; we must be able to anticipate tomorrow's crises and be able to shift our resources appropriately.

We have been hard at work rebuilding our nation's intelligence service since the drawdown of the 1970s. We will continue doing our best to keep our country's leaders apprised of the dangers and opportunities, to help them bring timely and effective initiatives to bear. In today's complex world we cannot afford to have an intelligence service that is anything but the best.